

Marchetti

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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM Continuous News

STATION WAVA Radio

DATE May 23, 1972 4:12 PM

CITY Washington, D. C.

MARCHETTI COMMENTS ON COURT DECISION

CARL CASTLE: A former Central Intelligence agent has been stopped from publishing books about his experiences. Federal District Judge Albert Bryan, Jr. says Victor Marchetti, who quit the CIA in 1969, can't publish the books because he signed a secrecy oath.

Marchetti told WAVA he'll appeal that decision.

VICTOR MARCHETTI: The first thing we're going to do is to appeal his decision. I think we're going to have the appeal on the thirtieth of this month.

CASTLE: Judge Bryan said the two secrecy oaths signed by former agent Marchetti during his fourteen year career with the CIA supersede even his free speech rights under the First Amendment.

Naturally Marchetti does not agree.

MARCHETTI: What the CIA is trying to do is to expand their agreement with me to include fiction, as well as nonfiction. What they want to do is to have the right to review everything I write, whether it's a book, fiction or nonfiction, an article or a short story, or whether it's a speech I'm about to make in order to make certain that they have -- that I have said nothing which they don't like.

CASTLE: Victor Marchetti, formerly of the Central Intelligence Agency.

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PROGRAM Special Report STATION WAVA Radio
DATE May 25, 1972 10:20 AM CITY Washington, D.C.

PART TWO: AN INTERVIEW WITH VICTOR MARCHETTI:

DON LARK: This is the second installment of a WAVA interview with former Central Intelligence agent, Victor Marchetti, who's been told by Federal District Judge Albert Bryan, Jr. he cannot legally publish a book he's written about the CIA.

This is Don Lark reporting.

Judge Bryan based his decision on two secrecy oaths signed by Marchetti when he was an agent. Following is the continuation of an unedited interview with former agent Marchetti.

VICTOR MARCHETTI: Well, I was a little concerned about the general direction in which any secret organization drifts when it has too much secrecy and not enough public control. My concern was that eventually we could find ourselves faced with, oh, I guess the kind of things that people, some people accuse the FBI of doing now. You know, spying on -- on civilians and that sort of thing.

LARK: The public, a lot of their contact with super spy agencies comes through the movies and British super spy James Bond. Is there any room on the CIA staff for a super agent like James Bond?

MARCHETTI: Practically none. That sort of a person really doesn't exist, and a lot of that sort of activity is almost purely imaginary. It's a -- I guess it's a -- I don't know how -- what kind of an analogy to use, except, you know, you can see Marcus Welby on TV or Ben Casey. They always have, you know, some -- some tremendous case on their hands. Whereas if you know physicians and surgeons you find out that ninety-nine percent of the things they do are rather ordinary and unexciting.

You know, intelligence is basically a matter of the collection of information and the processing of that information in order to produce reports that are usable by policy makers and planners. But there is another aspect of intelligence,

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and this is the part that bothers me. This is what they call covert action. This includes everything from paramilitary activities to propaganda; the whole bag of dirty tricks. And this is the area that I feel has got to be very carefully supervised and supervised by something more than a small group headed by the President's National Security Adviser. I think this needs much broader governmental control.

LARK: How much does Henry Kissinger have to do with the CIA?

MARCHETTI: Well, I -- I really don't know, because I left around the time he was beginning to exert his influence. But from what I hear from friends in the agency he's very influential by the kinds of information he wants and the kinds of activities that he can approve.

He is -- I think Newsweek -- or maybe -- no, it was in the Senate after last November, after there was a small reorganization in intelligence, and some of the senators who know a good bit about intelligence, such as Symington and even Stennis, were speculating as to whether Kissinger would now be the de facto head of U. S. intelligence as opposed to the Director of Central Intelligence.

But I just don't know. I mean I'm not that close to it any longer.

LARK: Former intelligence agent Victor Marchetti tells me more on another WAVA special report.

This is Don Lark for WAVA News.